

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07690

- E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA (TAKALA, MRS. LOAN), CVIS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONSTITUENT OF SENATOR MONDALE

REF: STATE 048356

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. MRS. LOAN TAKALA, US CITIZEN AND CONSTITUENT OF SENATOR MONDALE, CAME TO EMBASSY MARCH 1. EMBOFF CALLED AMBASSADOR CHAYET OF CONSULAR SECTION OF QUAI AND ARRANGED FOR HER TO SEE ONE OF HIS SUBORDINATES ABOUT ENTRY FROM SAIGON INTO FRANCE FOR HER SON AND SISTER. MRS. TAKALA THEN VISITED VISA SECTION WHERE APPLICATIONS FOR THEIR ENTRY TO THE UNITED STATES WERE MADE. FOLLOWING CONVERSATIONS AT QUAI AND WITH VIETNAMESE FRIENDS CONCERNING WAYS OF GETTING HER SON AND SISTER OUT OF SAIGON, MRS. TAKALA CALLED AGAIN AT THE EMBASSY ON MARCH 11. SHE SAID THAT QUAI OFFICIAL HAD NOT BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING; HE SAID GOF WOULD CONSIDER GIVING ENTRY VISA TO HER SON AND SISTER ONLY AFTER THEY COULD SHOW POSSESSION OF VIETNAMESE EXIT PERMITS. OFFICIAL TOOK NO NOTES ON THE CASE AND WOULD APPARENTLY NOT BE INFORMING THE FRENCH CG IN SAIGON THAT THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION FOR THESE TWO APPLICANTS WILL BE THE US. MRS. TAKALA REMAINS CONCERNED THAT TIME IS RUNNING OUT AND IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE SLOW VIETNAMESE AND FRENCH PROCEDURES TO FUNCTION PRIOR TO

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THE EXPECTED CLAMPDOWN ON EMMIGRATION FROM SAIGON FOL-

LOWING THE UNIFICATION OF VIETNAM. WE SHALL FOLLOW UP WITH QUAI ON GENERAL SUBJECT OF FRENCH ROLE IN DEPARTURE OF VIETNAMESE IN SVN RELATED TO AMERICANS.

2. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO INFORM SENATOR MONDALE'S OFFICE OF THE ABOVE. MRS. TAKALA CARRIED ALSO A LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SENATOR, WHICH WE ARE ANSWERING ALONG THE LINES OF THE ABOVE.

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3. THE FRENCH HERE ALSO BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT, COME MAY OR JUNE FOR VIETNAMESE TO LEAVE SAIGON. WE HAVE NOTED THAT SOME AMERICANS, WHO HAVE TRIED TO ENTER VIETNAM TO ASSIST THEIR WIVES AND AMERICAN CITIZEN CHILDREN TO LEAVE HAVE NOT TO DATE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. ALTHOUGH WE THINK THE CHANCES OF ANY AMERICAN CITIZENS GETTING RELATIVES OUT OF SAIGON ARE NOT PROMISING, THERE MAY BE SOME MERIT IN MRS. TAKALA'S ATTEMPT TO HAVE HER SON AND DAUGHTER JOIN HER OSTENSIBLY IN FRANCE. WE PRESUME THAT THERE MAY BE SOME OTHER CASES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OR ALIENS ADMITTED FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE WHO WISH TO GET THEIR CHILDREN OUT, AND IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ENLIST GOV ASSISTANCE IN CASES WHERE ONE COULD CONVINCINGLY CLAIM THE RELATIVE WOULD BE JOINING THE PRINCIPAL IN FRANCE. WE INTEND TO RAISE AGAIN WITH THE QUAI MRS. TAKALA'S CASE IN AN ATTEMPT TO ELICIT A MORE SYMPATHETIC AND HELPFUL RESPONSE. PRIOR TO DOING SO, WE WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT AND OTHER ADDRESSEES CONCERNING THE LIKELIHOOD THAT SAIGON MIGHT GIVE EXIT PERMITS. WE GATHER FROM MESSAGES IN OTHER CHANNELS THAT IN SOME CASES VIETNAMESE NATIONALS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LEAVE SAIGON AFTER PAYMENT OF FAIRLY SUBSTANTIAL "CONTRIBUTIONS".
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